



Seminole County
Public Safety



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Ooops! Correction

In the last issue we printed erroneous information for the firefighter safety procedure. Thanks to Mike Clemens from Casselberry Fire Department, we were corrected with the information that **three blasts** on the air horn is for water supply.

Continuous blasts from the air horn is for firefighter evacuation of a structure.

Thanks, Mikel

Emergency Call

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Feasibility Study

As most of you all ready now, Public Safety has been asked by the City Council of Altamonte Springs to conduct a feasibility study for the possible consolidation of Altamonte Springs Fire Department with Public Safety's EMS/Fire/Rescue Division.

This is a very labor intensive venture for both agencies with so many items and programs to investigate, review and agree upon. Every effort possible will be undertaken by everyone to ensure that the most equitable and fair solution is achieved. Should the outcome be for consolidation, it would strengthen our department and provide a reinforced commitment of our excellence to the public we serve.

Terry Schenk, Fire Chief of Seminole County's EMS/Fire/Rescue Division and Steve Gaston, Fire Chief of Altamonte Springs are spearheading and monitoring every step of this process. We wish them well in this truly innovative and historical event.



New 9-1-1 Recorder

The meetings are done and the decision has been announced that EXACOM will be the new provider of radio and telephone recording capabilities for all of Seminole County's Communication Centers. This has been a long and enlightening process. They have the latest technologies and options available today. Mentioning just a few options available, any communication center will be able to email any recording to anyone, versus making cassette tapes, which is still an option. It will be possible to display the actual time line, as events happens on a different computer and graphically display all radio and telephone activity during any given time frame, as well as a quality reporting package. One of their larger customers is the U.S. State Department. Exacom provides them with threat recorders for every U.S. Embassy world wide.

What its really like to work here! by Lisa Maldonado

How many people have come up to you since September 11, 2001 with an interest in what you do for a living? Firefighters, EMT's, Paramedics and 9-1-1 Operators ...all have the same "halo" effect since the nation suffered its tragedy.

Our jobs have been glamorized by movies and television and in doing so you may be aware there has been an increase in job applications.

Does the applicant know that for every "wild" call there are hundreds of not so "wild" calls? Weeding out the job seekers who are looking for the "glamorous"

career as seen on T.V. is a job unto itself.

Education is the key. The media has shown the public only one side of what we do. Hard work, sacrifices and making a difference in someone's life with little recognition is our way of life.

Anyone who is in this business knows that we are in this for one reason and one reason only. It is in our blood, our sweat, our tears, every fiber of our being. We do what we do because there is no other job we'd rather have. No other place we would rather work!

Can anyone do this job? Not on your

life! We are born with this powerful desire to help and strive for excellence in what and who we are in this proud profession. Personally, there isn't any other job I would rather do right now in my life.



Well, whatda you know!

Shampoo was first marketed in the U.S. in 1930 by John Breck, who was the captain of a volunteer fire department.

When a military contractor referred to a "manually powered fastener-driving impact device," he was actually talking about a **hammer**!

The Capitol Records building in Los Angeles, California is built to resemble a stack of records. The red airplane warning light atop the struc-

ture flashes out the word "Hollywood" in Morse code every 20 seconds or so.

Groundhog Day comes from "Candlemas Day", observed for centuries in parts of Europe on February 2, where the custom

was to have the clergy bless candles and distribute them to the people.

Which U.S. President refused to shake hands while in office?

Which President was divorced while in office?

"Well, for crying out loud,
I didn't know that!"



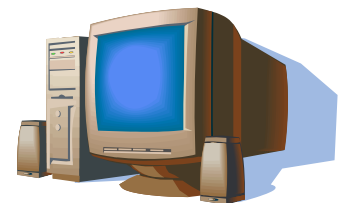
C. A. D. Update

Recently, a meeting was held with two different CAD vendors for a final demonstration and a question and answer period. Orbacom and Intergraph were the final contenders, out of a field of 10, to supply us with a new CAD.

The recommendation has been made that Orbacom receive the contract. This will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners. This selection was collectively agreed upon by the group.

Both companies have the latest technologies available. For example, it will be connected to the AVL system for absolute *closest available appropriate* unit for every alarm. It will have mobile data terminal capabilities, ready for wireless phase II, and provide a graphic for pre-planning of buildings, just to name a few.

Watch here as information becomes available for installation and training dates.



Latest technologies!
Mobile Data Terminals!
AVL Unit Selection

9-1-1 Training

Public Safety hosted a 9-1-1 Center Managers course recently for A.P.C.O., an international company specializing in training communications personnel at every level.

This class was one of the first of its kind in the local area. Many individuals attended from Florida counties such as Desoto, Clay, Sarasota and representatives from our P.S.A.P's. We even had participants as far away as Hamilton, Canada and Atlantic City, N.J.

The interaction between everyone was intense as the people attending are managers or will be in time. The class

was taught by, George Meister, an instructor for A.P.C.O.

This 3 day course focused on standardization of many areas of responsibility specific to a 9-1-1 Center and its personnel. Subjects such as leadership and management styles, documentation and counseling, and, at the end of each subject, there was role playing to demonstrate emphasis on the subject.

Tours were conducted for everyone to our Emergency Communication Center and Emergency Operations Center as well as a short demonstration on our training equipment.

Everyone was impressed with both of these areas. There were comments on how quite our center was and how the calls seemed to flow with ease.

Seminole County's Department of Public Safety is the training site for A.P.C.O. classes in the central Florida area because of the many capabilities we have in our building.

For information on future classes being conducted, visit the websites for:

Seminole County:

www.seminolepublicsafety.org or
www.apcointl.org for A.P.C.O.

Quality Assurance Bureau

We have a new member of the Public Safety family, she is Maria Plate. She came to us from Osceola County's 9-1-1 Office.

While there, she was instrumental in creating and implementing a public education program about 9-1-1 that is utilized in the schools.

Her goals for Public Safety include developing a quality assurance protocol

that can be used on a call-by-call basis. She also stated she believes "Improvement by training" is the way for superior Quality Assurance in this field. She will also be responsible for maintaining the CDE credits for our Communication Center.

Her experience as an Emergency Management Specialist and 9-1-1 Coordinator will be an invaluable asset to Public Safety.



Emergency Management

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Jim Falletti, from the Public Safety's EMS/Fire/Rescue Division, for being innovative and creating a new program for our Special Needs Registrants. This new program is designed for easier data entry, offers more data and also features numerous categories in which to access the information.

One of the goals of this new database will be to export it into our Emergency Notification System, by which we in-

form our Special Needs Registrants of shelter openings during significant events and many other events that would be useful to them.



Jim has worked long and hard to create this program for us and will be "tweaking" it from time to time as well.

Thank you, Jim, for a job well done!!!!



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Time to Celebrate!

This is something we don't do enough for our dedicated family members. With this issue we would like to try to change that for the better. We have been able to find out that several people are celebrating their 20th year of continued employment with Public Safety and Seminole County.

Barbara Voltaline with Public Safety's Administration section and Elaine RiCarde from our Animal Services Division. These folks demonstrate the epitome of the Public Safety spirit. Ladies, we thank and honor you both for not just being the outstanding employees you are, but for the caring and giving people you are, as well.



Thank you from everyone in Public Safety!

Animal Services

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Shelly LeCroy, a new employee to our Division. She will be working as an Animal Services Officer.

The United States Department of Agriculture has a detector dog program more commonly known as the "Beagle Brigade."

Though other breeds are used, Beagles were the original breed used to sniff out illegal food and plant substances being brought into the country.

The dogs and handlers are assigned to borders, post office facilities, airports and seaports to name a few locations.

There is a single training facility located in Orlando for this four-footed enforcement agency and their handlers. All the detector dogs are found in shelters and the USDA is a regular visitor at Animal Services.

The very characteristics that make a good detector dog are usually the same reasons owners give up the dogs. They must have boundless energy, an insatiable curiosity and need intense and prolonged play.

This past year, Animal Services sent nine Beagle recruits to the program. Dogs that don't make the cut are placed in the USDA adoption program. Dogs in service are kept as kennel dogs until retirement when they, too, go into the adoption program.

Recently, the USDA had an open house where they showed off their training and kennel facilities and gave demonstrations of the dogs at work.



Animal Services staff attended and, as a result, came in contact with TBS television, Tokyo Broadcasting System. It seems the Orlando training facility is international and has a "train-the-trainer" program for foreign countries, including Japan.

TBS has a weekly program called "Amazing Animals" and they are doing a show on the "Beagle Brigade." Early next month, TBS will be filming in Orlando and at Animal Services.

They want to show their audience where the dogs are found and will interview our staff about characteristics we look for to recommend a dog for the program.

Animal Services is proud to be a part of this essential program and greatly appreciates the opportunity to participate in this film project.

